CONQUEROR OF THE SOUDAN LARGE EMPIRE THE SON OF A SLAVE

Bemarkable Career of Sultan Rabah, Who Has just Massacred a French Expedi-tion-His Fifteen Years of Conquests-All Children Marked with His Sign of Power.

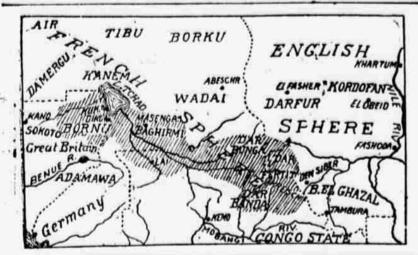
The news came from Europe the other day that the Sultan Rabah, who now rules supreme over a vast territory between Darfur and Lake French expedition under the command of M. Bretonnet who left France in September last year to cross the country from the Congo to Lake Tchad. His party was approaching the lake when the terrible tragedy occurred. Another report says that Bretonnet himself was not killed but is a prisoner in the hands of Rabah. However this may be there is unfortunately no doubt that the expedition has been wiped out by the

ate can hardly fall to receive his attention sooner or later, and the recent death of Sultan Yussuf the military usurper who overthrew the ancient dynasty of Wadai, will facilitate the conquest of that country by Rabah's forces.

The willy conqueror did not fail to enlist the influence of a certain "saint" in Bornu known as Chatatu, who is a very potent personage among all the people. This holy man spread the information that Rabah was not only a great Sultan but also was the real Mahdi and had come among the people of Bornu to confer great bleasings upon them. Chafatu has been worth thousands of soldiers to the new ruler and great have been his rewards.

his rewards.

The Sultan maintains a harem worthy of his state and his children, said to number over 100 are all under 20 years of age. No information has come to hand that will justify an estimate of the number of soldiers he has under arms, but it is known that he has cavalry infantry and even artillery. The latter branch of his military service, however, is naturally not very formidable. His cavalry is armed with lances and the infantry with rifies, and the latter are provided with horses to ride except when fighting. Rabah is now in the heyday of his power and there are as yet no signs of any weakness in his great organization. He is absolute master of



son of a slave whose history reads like a romance, for he has risen in a few years from nothing to a position of despotic power over millions of peode and is to-day the most powerful native ruler in tropical Africa.

It was an easy matter for France, England and Germany to divide his territory among them on paper, but they will find him the hardest nut to crack they have picked up in Africa when they try to take effective possession of the country. The world has heard little of Rabah's triumphant had overthrown the rulers of vast native states. one after another, and called himself, not only Sultan, but the Mahdi. This article tells what is known of the remarkable history of Rabah and of the means by which he has acquired and maintained his power. The map shows the empire he has carved out for himself and the places and regions chiefly identified with the history be has made. To make his rise and progress clearly un-derstood it will be necessary, first, to refer to some events that occurred before he became the leading figure in affairs.

In 1874, Ismail Pasha, the Egyptian Governor of Khartoum, after a short and sharp campaign, annexed to Egyptian territory the large countries of Darfur and Dar Fertise He received powerful assistance, in this conquest from a wealthy slave dealer and trader named Zebahr who had immense slave depots in the Province of Bahrel Ghazal and large bands of armed men who went on his slave-catching raids. To recompense Zebahr for his valuable aid Egypt made him Mudir of the Chekka Province and gave him rank of Bey. He went to Cairo to be invested with his title, leaving the government of his province in the hands of his son Suleiman, who, Intoxicated by the power he now wielded and Incensed by orders from Khartoum to cease his

Intensed by orders from Khartoum to cease his raiding for siaves, allied himself with the dethroned Sultan of Darfur and attacked the Egyptian posts. When this news reached Cairo Zebahr was thrown into prison and has never been permitted to return to the Soudan.

Then Gessi Pasha, whom Gordon had made Governor of the Equatorial Province, was sent in hot haste to suppress the new uprising in Bahrel Ghazal and Barfur where the Khedive's authority had again Islien into the hands of the slave raiders. By his energy and strategy he prevented Suleiman and the deposed Sultan of Darfur from uniting their forces, defeated each in turn, captured Suleiman and his principal chief, executed them and took up his residence in Zebahr's great slave depot at Dem Siber. It was at this point that the person, ferocious and kindly in his differing aspects, who in about fifteen years has made himself an all powerful autocrat, and, is the subject of this article, appeared upon the scene.

Rabab the son of a slave, was a foster brother of Zebahr with whom he was reared. He fought against Gessi with Suleiman's army and 400 rifles. These guns were the basis on which he rose to power. The slave raiders had been suppressed with a heavy hand in the Egyptian Soudan. There was no career for him in his old haunts, so he decided to enter virgin fields and make an

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the large region he has conquered, and though the whole of it is shown on the maps as parti-tioned between England, France and Germany, they do not control a single foot of it and are not likely to do so until they think the game is worth large military expedition and expen

REASONS FOR PROMOTION.

Three Appeals Made by Government Employees to Their Chiefs.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.-There always hange over a Government clerk the uncertainty otion and dismissal. There are never any candidates for the latter, and there never lived a clerk who did not hope for promotion and feel himself entitled to it. The Government has employees in many districts in the country far from the madding gayety of Washthese far away Government employees are often primitive, but they know all about promotion and want it. They differ from the upto-date city clerk in their childlike faith that the head of the department in which they are employed will be delighted to grant a promotion just as soon as he is fully informed of the special merits of their case, and they spend much time, ink and paper in clearly explaining to the department why they need and should have immediate promotion. It often happens that their appeal does not convince the adamantine chief, but that is, of course, due to the density of the chief and not to lack of merit

on the part of the employee.

All sorts of reasons for promotion are given. The latest is from a man away out in Wyoming who married a widow. The widow died. He then became acquainted with his stepe hildren and he thinks that the only thing to assuage his grief and enable him to help the stepchildren is promotion; and he sets forth this little family matter in a letter of three pages of fools-

cap. The applicant starts his appeal by saying ment. The dearest one on earth to me has been taken suddenly away. My sweetheart died with rheumatism of the heart, apoplexy, the doctors said. She was apparently well, only that she had a little rheumatism in her right knee. On Sunday evening, Oct. 13th, when I started to the Post for the mail (a mile away) she was sitting by the front window and had not a rain that I know of. It was just duck her I did not like to leave my sweetheart alone said for me to go, so I kissed her good-bre sevwas sitting there making sweet faces at me, as only the woman can who loves you intensely. We had been married eleven months and our ove was happier than the angels.

A LESSON FOR WIVES. Demonstration of Reasons Why Husband

Do Not Always Save Money.

It was her private opinion that he was not ood business man, and possibly she was right. "I can handle the family finances better than you," she was accustomed to say, and she said it so often that he finally told her to try it.

"I'll have my personal account at the bank put in your name," he said, "and will proceed to stand from under. All bills, everything that pertains to our living expenses, shall be attended to be you. I will draw a certain amount each week for such personal expenses as lunches and car fare, with a small allowance for something in the liquid line occasionally, but you shall have entire charge of everything else."

Naturally she was jubilant. She hadn't pu in ten years telling him how he could save mone without getting the idea that she knew something about it. It took a little time to have his book written up and the account transferred to her but finally one evening he brought home a nic ittle check-book and told her it was all arranged. Then he instructed her in the mysteries of drawing checks, warned her not to overdraw the account and retired entirely from the business manage ment of their joint affairs.

Just about a week later she met him at the offic late one afternoon and went to dinner with him They had a good dinner, just such a dinner as they had had on previous occasions when they had taken dinner together downtown, and she enjoyed it thoroughly until he pushed the check

for it over to her.
"What's that for?" she asked.

"Pay it," he said. "Well, I guess I won't do any such thing," she turned warmly. "You pay it yourself."
"I haven't anything to do with it," he insisted. "You're the cashier. You've started in to sho me how to keep expenses down, and naturally you'll find it no trick at all if I pay your bills When I was making you an allowance for your incidental personal expenses I never ex pected you to pay for dinners you took with me,

pected you to pay for dinners you took with me, did I"

She paid. She felt that she was being cheated in some way, but she paid, and then she suggested sarcastically that she supposed he would expect her to pay for the theatre tickets too. "Certainly," he replied.

Well, then we won't go," she said.

"Just as you say," he returned pleasantly. "You're the financial manager."

The ride home was not an especially enjoyable one, although he seemed to be in excellent humor. She was inclined to be morose, and she had not entirely recovered her equanimity when he reached home the following evening.

"A bill for a dozen shirts came to-day," she said shortly. "I don't see why they addressed it to me."

said shortly. "I don't see why they addressed it to me."

"I charged them to you," he explained. "I'm not running any accounts these days, you know. Did you pay it?"

"No, I didn't, and I won't."

"Well. I won't." she answered decidedly. "You wouldn't have your poor husband sued by a haberdasher would you" he asked. "Just think how it would look.

"Well, how do you suppose I am going to save money if I have to keep paying it out like this."

think how it would look."

"Well, how do you suppose I am going to save money if I have to keep paying it out like this." she demanded.

"I could have saved money myself if I hadn't had to buy for both of us." he answered.

"Well, it isn't fair, that's all I can say," she exclaimed, but she paid the bill, although she did it under protest.

Things went along with comparative smoothness for a few days after this, and then one morning one of the children asked for 98 cents to get a schoolbook.

"Go to your mother," was the scale of the

Ing one of the children asked for 88 cents to get a schoolbook.

"Go to your mother," was the reply of the man who had abdicated as the head of the house.

"But I haven't any change," she protested.

"A cashier should make it a point always to have chance," he said. "You surely can't expect me to buy the children's school books out of my pocket money."

She said he was a mean thing, but she had to get the change.
The following Sunday they all went to take dinner with a relative in another part of the city, and she had to pay the street car fare on two lines of cars for the whole family.

Then one night when they were caught out in the rain she had to pay for the carriage that brought them home, and she remarked rather bitterly that money just seemed to melt away. He admitted that he had had somewhat that same experience with it when he was handling the cash.

After that she paid the bills for two morning.

experience with it when he was handling the cash.

After that she paid the bills for two morning papers that he took, for cleaning and pressing a suit of clothes, for a new hat, for four neckties, and for two pairs of rubbers that she thought-lessly asked him to get for the children.

In time she began to brood over these matters. It seemed to her as if he were always asking for money in trifling amounts to pay for things that she had never been bothered about before, or clee was bringing home hills. And somehow, in some ways, he did not seem to be as attentive as he had been formerly. So it happened that one night he found her on the verge of tears.

"You used to bring me home flowers occasion ally," she said, "and you never used to let me go out anywhere without them, and—and—and when we went to the Browns for dinner night before last I was the only woman there without a conage bouquet or a flower in her hair. You don't know how badly I feit, but I was too proud to say anything about it."

don't know how badly I felt, but I was too proud to say anything about it.

"Why, my dear," he protested, "I didn't know you wanted any flowers."

"You know I always like flowers. she retorted. "To passionately fond of them, and and you've never forgotten that before.

"But you didn't give me any money to get them with." he explained, "and I didn't feel like charging them to you."

For a minute there was doubt as to whether it would be tears or flashing eyes. Then she went over to her little desk, picked up her check-book and threw it on the floor at his feet.

"Take your old check book!" she exclaimed. "I don't want to have anything "Except me," he put in.

And the next night he brought her home a fine large bouquet of roses.

NEW ENGLAND ABANDONED FARMS. The Problem of Utilizing Them Seems to Be Nearing a Solution.

The Problem of Utilizing Them Seems to Be Nearing a Solution.

From the Boston Commercial Bulletis.

The welfare of the New England farmer has become a matter of national importance, and a subject of investigation at the hands of the Government through the Department of Agriculture, whose chief, the Hon James Wilson has but just returned to Washington from a visit to this section of the country. The immediate results of his visit will be a further visitation by Department officials, technically known as for esters, agrostologists and sool physicists, whose peculiar duties will be first to inquire into for esters, agrostologists and sool physicists, whose peculiar duties will be first to inquire into for entry conditions here; second, to examine the grasses in order to learn if any of the new varieties which the Government is importing from foreign countries will be useful in New England and third, to study the soil conditions. All of which indicate that our agricultural section i to be thoroughly overhauled and reluvenated as far as the fostering care of the Department of Agriculture can accomplish this.

It seems that the Secretary while here saw but one abandoned farm, and even there hay was cut, apples picked and cattle put out to pasture, but the Secretary deplored the absence of any attempt to make the most of local markets for dairy products, fruit, vegetables, &c. and asserts that the New England farmer is blessed beyond many of his Western conferers, whose crops are apt to fail utterly for lack of rainfall or on whose land constant irrigation is necessary, and moreover, there is no market for the product of the soil better than a New England village. It is to be hoped that the stimulus to be given farming hereabouts will be appreciated, so that it can no longer be said that New England development of the soil better than as mandages her soil. The Told Homer week instituted in New Hinghistic this year by Gov. Bollins, while primarily a social function, is destined to do much for the farming community in

How an Earthquake Gave Permanent Employment to 1,000 Persons. From the Nashville Banner.

UNION CITY, Nov. 8.—As every render knows. Beelfoot Lake is the largest body of water in the State, and that it was formed by seismic disturbances in 1811. People who have never been to the lake, or who do not live in this section, imagine it but a pleasure resort for fishing and hunting parties, and do not know that from its waters at least 1,000 people gain a livelihood. There are two wholesale fish houses here, and several at Hickman, Ky., that houses here, and several at Hickman, Ky., that have wagons constantly on the road bringing thousands of pounds of fish daily for shipment to foreign markets. The fish docks on the lakes are always a scene of interesting activity. There are 1,500 nets in Reelfoot, worked by some 500 people. Taking all that are connected, directly and indirectly, with fishing and hunting, at least 1,000 people earn a living from the lake.

TILEFISH ARE BACK AGAIN.

THEIR DISAPPEARANCE WAS ONE OF

THE OCEAN'S MYSTERIES, Three Years After Their Discovery in 1879 a Billion and a Half of Them Perished in a Catastrophe in the Gulf Stream Not Yet Explained by Science-Value of the Fish.

Some day it may be that the detective forces science will discover the secret of the disappearance of the tilefish from the waters of the eastern coast of this country. At present it remain one of the mysteries of the ocean depths and scientists can only guess at the catastrophe that in 1882 strewed the surface of the Atlantic for an area of 170 by 25 miles with the bodies of this splendid fish and so nearly wiped the species out of existence in this part of the world, at least, that it did not reappear for nearly ten years. A recent bulletin from the United States Pish Commission tells the history of the tilefish so for an it is known from the time of its first appearance to its present unexpected reappearance. The pamphlet is by Dr. H. C. Bumpus, Director of the Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass.

The tilefish is a bright-hued and handsome fish, running as high as thirty pounds in weight, and is known scientifically as Lopholatilus chamaeleonticept. It belongs to the family of Malain tropical waters it is believed to belong to the West Indian Gulf Stream fauna, a northern contiquation of which has found habitation in the warm waters, of the Gulf Stream long distances to the north of its proper habitat. These fish, it is believed, could not exist in water of the normal temperature off the New England coast, but in the warm belt of the Stream they find suitable conditions of life, and outside of that belt they are not found.

To Capt. Kirby of the schooner William Hutchins belongs the credit of the discovery o the tilefish. Sailing out from Gloucester for cod and hake in May, 1879, he fished in water varying from eighty to one hundred and twenty fathoms and almost di-rectly south of Nantucket, in latitude 40° 04' north, longitude 70° 23' west, and took on his trauls about two thousand pounds of what he described as a "strange and handsomely colored fish". Perhaps because of the strangeness he ordered most of them thrown overboard, for your Down East fisherman is not prone to new de partures in fishing, but this wastefulness he very heartily regretted after he had had some few of them cooked, for he found them "the fines fish he had ever eaten," and, giving the cod and hake the go-by for the present he set about get-ting more specimens of the new fish with a view to the home market, which he judged would take kindly to them. Again that day the trawls were set some miles to the east and another catch of 2,000 pounds was the result. On the following day Capt. Kirby tried it to the southeast and got a third fine haul. He sent 4,000 pounds of dress ulefish to Gloucester where they found a ready market. Specimens were sent to the National Museum, for nobody in Gloucester had ever seen was duly examined and classified with the scien tific name given above: but Gloucester, christened the new discovery tilefish, it is said because

its bright-hued scales, and set out to catch it. Presumably the other fishermen didn't strike the right locality as the only luck reported was by Capt Dempsey of Gloucester, who, while fishing for cod fifty miles south by east of No Man's Land in July, 1879, pulled nine of the strangers out of seventy-five fathoms of water. Early in September, 1880, three specimens were taken. An icthyological expedition chartered a schooner late in September, 1880, and set out for the tile fishing grounds with a trawl line of 400 hooks baited with menhaden. The net result was a swordfish and two skates. A storm then came up and the party returned. In August, 1861, another expedition, fishing in the vicinity of longi north, latitude 70° to 71° west, got about seven hundred pounds of tilefish. In 1882 n.

tilefish were taken. Dr. Bumpus says: "In March and April, 1882, vessels entering New York and other Atlantic ports reported that they had passed through countless numbers of dead flah while crossing the northern edge of the Gulf Stream. Investigation proved that these were tilefish, and that they appeared on the surface of the water over an area 170 miles in leintth and 25 miles in width. A conservative estimate, made by Capt. J. W. Collins (Fish Commission Report for 1882), who has given a detailed history of the tilefish up to the time of this murtality, placed their number at upward of 1.138.720,000. Allowing 10 pounds to each fish, he has estimated that there would be 288 pounds of flah for every man, woman and child in the United States. In September, 1882, Prof. Baird chartered the Josic Reeves, and sent her to the tilefish grounds, that he might ascertain to what extent the species had been depleted, but the vessel returned without having found a single individual. This seemingly unprecedented destruction of marine life was extensively commented upon both by newspapers and scientific journals." they had passed through countless numbers

but the vessel returned without having found a single individual. This seemingly unprecedented destruction of marine life was extensively commented upon both by newspapers and scientific journals.

For several years attempts were made to find specimens of the fish, but name was caught and the titefish was relegated by most scientists to the category of extinct creatures. Meantime however, Prof. Vertill, who had made a careful study of the nature of the ocean bottom in that locality in 1850, 1851 and 1852, using the dredge with results of the greatest value, predicted as a result of his investigation that tellefish would probably respiper when conditions should again be favorable to their existence in northern waters, in the report of the dredging along the titlefish grounds be states that there is a rapid incline of the sea bottom beyond the hundred fathom line usually as steep as the side of a great mountain chain and about as high as Mount Washington. New Hampshire. He writes:

"The bottom along the upper part of this stope and the outermost portion of the adjacent plateau, in sixtyfive to one hundred fathoms or more, is bathed by the waters of the Guif Stream. Consequently the temperature of the bottom water along this beit is decidedly higher than its atong the shallower part of the plateau near the shore, in twenty five to sixty fathoms, and sometimes to two hundred fathoms or more, is bathed by the waters of the Guif Stream. Consequently the temperature of the bottom water along this beit is decidedly higher than its atong the shallower part of the slate and five fathoms, and sometimes to two hundred and fifty fathoms, and sometimes to two hundred and fifty fathoms, the warm belt. In fact this belt is occupied by a northern continuation of the southern or West Indian Guif Stream family fathoms, the warm belt. In fact his belt is occupied by a northern continuation of the southern or West Indian Guif Stream family fathoms, the warm belt of the southern of the southern forms of the most peculiar facis; and

and conservative students set it in the list of the sea a suysteries.

In 1883 dredging was done in the old home of the diefish, but not one was taken. In 1884 and 1885 the dredging was continued with a like result. In 1896 a dredging expedition went out but got no titefish and a subsequent expedition with trawis and hand tines went over the ground and found that, whereas it formerly termed with fish, it was then a region of devastation. All that was caught was a few hake and the stomachs of these showed a scarcity of food suitable for the tilefish.

"It is safe to say," writes the cautain of this.

of these showed a searcity of food suitable for the tilefish.

"It is safe to say," writes the captain of this expedition "that the large number of sets made with the trials made with the search that the large number of sets made with the trials made with the hand lines, clearly demonstrate the fact that if the tilefish has not become absolutely extinct in this region it is certainly so rare that the chances of obtaining it are limited."

During the next three years no tilefish were taken. In 1889 Prof. Libbey began a series of sea temperature investigations which lasted for several years and convinced him that the warm belt was moving in shore and that the old habitat of the tilefish would present an environment suitable to their existence in 1892. Tracing out the area in which a temperature of 50 degrees and

above obtained he found that it extended to the Delaware capes and throughout this area he caught uleflah, few of them, to be sure, but enough to prove his theory that they were returning to their former home, to be correct. Commenting upon this, by Bumpus says:

"It is thus seen that whereas Prof. Verrill, in 1882, had given reasons for the disappearance of the flah and had stated that it is probable that in a few years they will occupy these grounds by migrating northward, even if there be not enough left here to replenish their race, and, although an indiscriminate search of ten years had falled to find any trace of the lost flah, the results of Prof. Libbey's temperature investigations enable him to show that the physical conditions of the sea bottom were variable, to prove that there was a definite movement of warm water toward the area earlier occupied by the tileflah, and to predict that if this movement continued the tileflah would be found again in its old habitat."

In 1892 eight tileflah were taken, and in the following year fifty-three, of which twenty-four were at one catch. Since the year of the great mortality among these flahes no flahing expeditions, except the scientific, had set out to catch them, and in 1894, 1895 and 1896 no scientific search was made, as it was believed that the flah could not be found in large numbers. Early in February the schooner Mable Kenniston was blown by a gale from the George's Bank 120 miles to the westward and set out haddock trawis in sitty-five fathoms of water about one hundred and forty miles southwest of No Man's Land, in latitude 39° 40° north, longitude 72° 10° west. Thirty tileflah were taken to Montauk Point for the subject for these weighed over twenty pounds but many of them were young flah, indicating that the flah were again breeding in that locality and their presence there showed more than an immigration from the southern waters. A number of these flah were taken to Montauk Point for the soldiers at Camp Wyckoff. Further catches that the flah were

THE FARTHEST WORTH NEWSPAPER

Information Given in the First Number of SEATTLE, Nov. 11. - A copy of Vol. 1, No. 1 of The Name News, published at Nome Alaska, on Monday, Oct. 9, 1899, has reached here. It does not look as if it were published nearer the North Pole than any other newspaper in America. It has four pages with four columns, twelve inches long to the column, and it sells for fifty cents a copy. There are three columns of advertisements, all of them, excepting one, being of saloons, lawyers and doctors. The lawyers are Roseper & Pittman Milroy, Hannum & Milroy, Alonzo Rawson Whittlesey & Fink, W. H. Bard, Hubbard, Beemer t Hume and Francis McNulty. Mr. McNulty announces that he will remain during the winter from which it may be inferred that Mr. McNulty has food and fuel for ordinary purposes. physicians are E. M. Reninger, Emil Pobl. and James Miller, Surgeon U. S. A.

The Palace restaurant announces that it has "Everything the Market Afforda" The Horseshoe Saloon makes this announcement Bon-ton resort of Nome will open for business Saturday night in the new iron building near the water works, under the able and popular management of Mr. Charles Cobb." Ti ception, The Pioneer, the El Dorado, The Northern, The Nome Saloon and The Dexter are others. The Pioneer offers "High Grade Wet Goods" to its patrons; the El Dorado is the "best equipped and most comfortable resort" in Nome. Nome offers "the best the camp can afford in the line of liquors, wines and cigars." The El

the line of liquors, wines and cigars." The El Dorado has "excellent muste," and the Dester is "The Finest and Largest Saloon north of Scattle." A column is devoted to the "output of the season," which is put down as, "at least \$4,000,000." Another column goes to a "New Mail Route," which is a "Montaly Mail between Nome and Katmal of Cook Inlet, during the winter months." A half column is devoted to a ball at St. Michael, which is described as "an interesting social affair." Another half column is a puf for the "Creameric," a new restaurant where "Every delicacy of the season is served as guests desare, while many a dainty creation of the chef's skill is there to tempt a new restaurant where "Every delicacy of the season is served as guests desire, while many a dainty creation of the chef's skill is there to tempt the appetite of the most fastidious." Just what that chef will have in the way of "dainty creations" of fricasseed boolegs, Eskim; dog å la Newburg, cold mule salted, and horse dicurrent of whale blubber, will not be known until the first news comes from Nome next spring.

John F. Collins, undertaker and embalmer, will creet a new building as soon as he can get the lumber, and Curiy Carr and E. A. Kelly, well known middleweights, are booked for a twenty tound glove contest to a decision at Wyatt Earp's saloon. "It promises to be a warm contest," the paper says.

round glove contest to a decision at Wyatt Earp's saloon. "It promises to be a warm contest," the paper says.

In the "News Notes," the wedding of Mr. John Harkinson and Miss Hannah Hibbard is announced, and Francis P. King, M. D., a well-known mining man, formerly-fo New York, and Miss Elizabeth Shirase, M. D. late of Hamilton, Ont. were quietly married Saturday evening by Rev. Dr. Young, Anious the short editorials are these encouragers.

"Nome is a winner. Now, just watch the town grow."

"At the recent municipal election a total of 1.418 voice were cast. Not a small vote for a town a few weeks old."

"Nome is neither wild nor lawless. Good order is maintained and gun plays are seldon seen. And yet it is a red hot town.

"The beach diggings are practically closed, but here and there a hardy miner may still be seen working on the sea shore."

Twenty five lines in fine type are devoted to the different religious organizations. the Prosbyterian, Congregational and Catholic being the most active.

Among the "Personals" are several notices of persons "leaving for the outside."

And last, but not least, the local poet under the divine affiains of the artic circle gets off this gem.

Bis ness is too plays to blays.

His ness is too plays to blays.

Oh, look at the queer Requiment, His nose is too pudgy to blaux: His perfume is awful, To dearthe it unlawful, The thought of it fills me with waux.

THE CLIMATE OF SOUTH AFRICA. Little Rain There when the High Average of Temperature Is Considered.

Observations of the weather have been system atically made for many years in South Africa, and in the Cape Colony the meteorological con-ditions have been as carefully and completely studied as in England. In other parts, how ever, the observations are far less satisfactory and in the Transvaal observations may be said scarcely to exist, our knowledge of the weather

changes being extremely meagre.

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Some few years ago the "Report of the Meteorological Commission" at the Cape of Good Hope embedied detailed rainfall maps for each mouth, showing the distribution of the rain in different parts of South Africa. The average results for the year abow that, with the exception of a small area in the immediate vicinity of Cape Town, the total rainfall for the year is almost wholly below twenty inches; that is, considerably less than in London. In most places the average for the year is less than ten inches, and at some stations it falls as low as five inches for the whole twelve months.

In the Orange Free State the average rainfall for the year is about twenty inches. The winter rains are very small, the aggregate for a month being only a few tenths of an inch on the average. With the commencement of the souther: summer the rains increase, although it is not until November and December that the average fall for the month exceeds an inch, and even in these months the rainfall in many places is only 0.5 inch or 0.4 inch. In January, February and March the average in the Orange Free State is four or five inches in each month.

The meagre returns for the Transvaal show that in 1890 the rainfall eight miles east of Johannesburg was practically nil in July, August and September, while in October the rainfall was 5.77 inches, which was the wettest month of the year, and rain fell on eleven days. In both November and December the rainfall in the vicinity of Johanneshurg exceeded five inches, and the total number of days with rain during the year was sixty-one. In the Orange Free State the results for 1800 show that there was practically no rain in September, but in October the rainfall were fairly heavy, and the Basutoland September is also exceedingly dry.

There He Drew the Line. From the Boston Budget.

Prom the Boston Budget.

"Pardon me," said the polite highwayman, "but I must ask you to stand and deliver."

The coach stopped. The door opened with surprising alaerity and a young woman with a very large hat stroped out into the middle of the moonlight. In her hand she held a small leather-covered box.

"Here they are," she said, cheerfully.
"What?" said the highwayman,
"My diamonds." said the lady. "I am an antess, you know, and—"
The highwayman leaped upon his horse.
"Madame," said the, removing his hat gracefully, "you must excuse me. I may be a highwayman, but I am not an advertisement."

SOME NOTED BACHELORS.

Men of Mark in Politics, Art and Litera ture Who Never Married.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Samuel J. Tilden was the richest America who ever entered public life and remained ain gle to the end of his days. His persistent cell bacy was remarkable, for, unlike Sir Thomas, Mr. Tilden was born with money, and thus from his youth was considered eligible by the mamma

of many young women.

No Republican of half Mr. Tilden's prominen has gone through life without marrying, but, including David Bennett Hill who seems to be confirmed bachelor, Democracy's rolls show noteworthy triumvirate of the distinguished celibates, James Buchanan, the only bachelo President, being the third member thereof. Bu

noteworthy triumvirate of the distinguished celibates, James Buchanan, the only bachelor President, being the third member? thereof. Buchanan is understood to have refrained from taking a wife because the girl upon whom he set his youthful affections was obdurate. He is said to have regretted the single state to the day of his death. Mr. Hill, on the other hand, is reported to be a bachelor from choice.

Literature has furnished a long string of names to the list of eminent bachelors. Possibly the best-known unmarried man of letters to-day is Henry James, the novelist. He maintains stoutly that the artist, no matter what the medium of his expression, should remain single, on the ground that the petty cares and carpings of domestillie tend to wear on delicately adjusted nerves and exhaust the mental fibre of genius, whether its possessor be a painter of pictures, a worker in words, a modeller of statues, a composer of music, a singer, or one who amuses the people from the stage.

John Girenned Whittier was a bachelor, though not from the same cause as the brilliam fiction writer mentioned. Whittier was a great admirer of the married state, we are told, and in his boy-hood had a blue-eyed, red-checkod New England girl for his sweetheart. Together they went to school as children, and when they grew to youth's estate he told her the story most girls like to hear. She heard tigaldly too, but he was power and a poet and love must wait for recognition. She promised, but waiting is wearisome; before recognition came to the young genile versemaker she forgot him as a lover, and was married to some one else. Edward FigGeraid, the translator of Omar Kabyyam's quatrains, was a bachelor, and there was a lover, and was married to some one else. Edward FigGeraid, the translator of Omar Kabyyam's quatrains, was a bachelor, and there was a round that he right has a lover, and one of the most charming of men, has never married. Mr. Burroughs was not even a woman hate, neither has any one ever numised that a romance caused his ba

PECULIAR PRIVILEGES OF PEERS. Only Three May Remain Covered in Presence of the Sovereign. From Tit-Bits.

The more ancient peerages of the British realm have attached to them certain curious privileges, granted to ancestors of the present holders by nonarchs of the past, and many are the quaint and ridiculous ceremonies the present holders have to perform ofttimes in order to preserve the right to their titles.

For instance, the office of royal champion is held by the Dymokes of Scrivelsby Court, near Horncastle. William the Conqueror granted Scrivelaby to Robert De Marmion on condition that he and his successors for all time should officiate as royal champions, stipulating that if at any time the owner of the manor falled to appear, either in person or by deputy, as champion at the coronation banquet the Scrivelsby estate would be forfeit to the crown. coronation banquet the Scrivelaby estate would be forffit to the crown.

For 800 years a representative from Scrivelaby Court never failed to perform this duty, even though in 1292 the manor passed into the hands of the Dymokes, who have held it ever since.

Attred in complete armor, with lance at rest, the champion's duty consisted in riding into Westminster fiall during the progress of the coronation banquet, preceded, of course, by a herald. Beining up his steed by the side of the sovereign he then had to challenge all comers to deny the justice of the monarch's claim to the throne, and offer to fight them on the spot.

Needloss to say, no one coming forward to ac-

he then had to challenge all comers to deny the justice of the monarch's claim to the throne, and offer to fight them on the spot.

Needless to say, no one coming forward to accept the challenge, a gobiet of gold, filled with wine, was handed to the champion, who then drank to the sovereign's health. This goblet was always retained as a souvenir.

A peculiar right is possessed by Lord inchiquin, who can dress his servants in the same liveries as the royal attendants. In the reign of Henry VIII. Lord inchiquin was king of the southern part of Ireland, and in return for giving up his authority the merry monarch granted him this privilege.

It may surprise many to know that her Majesty has such a servant as a sandal bearer. This office is fulfilled by the Earl of Rother.

Another curious right is possessed by the Spencers. When a royal christening is about to take place, with or without leave, an earl of that name is entitled to be present if he feels disposed to avail himself of the privilege, though to be in order he must present himself with his cost decorated with solid gold buttons, each of which must be of a certain weight.

On one occasion an Earl Spencer, much against the will of the Queen, presented himself for admission to the royal christening, resolutely refusing to forego his right.

Of the validity of his claim there was no doubt, but as a last resource the Lord Chancellor directed that the gold buttons on his coat should be weighed to see if they complied with the conditions. One of them was found to be below the prescribed weight, and this proved to be a sufficient reason for excluding the Earl from the ceremony.

Lord Kinsele of Ireland and Lord Forester of England, together with the Master of Trinity College. Cambridge, possess the privilege of remaining covered in the prescribe of their sovereign and not removing their headgear, as other subjects are bound to do.

MR. BONZEY ON THE WINTER.

The Outlook for Wet Rather Than Very Cold Weather, Says a Maine Expert. VEAZIE, Me., Nov. 17.—The lumbermen.

farmers and sallers who live in and around Ban-ger, say that Ezskiel Benzey of this town can make better fitting weather and turn it out more gor, say that Ezskiel Bonzey of this town can make better fitting weather and turn it out more nearly true to name than the Government experts in Washington. He has been making small batches of common weather for home consumption for more than fifty years, but never tried his hand at manufacturing tempests until four or five years ago. On making a brew of meteorological phenomena he uses the old stock regulation goods, such as husks on corn cars, fur on wild animals, goose bones and spider webs, and then spices the whole let with some chaire ingredients of his own. by which means he has been alle to give the Washington people cards and spades and still beat them at their own game.

At the present time Mr. Bonzey carries a stock of weather sufficient to supply customers for six months to come. The latter days of November and early December will be cold, with snow a nough for sleighing. A week before Christmas a thaw will set in, which will fill the ponds and lakes and leave the roads middly. Bare ground and weighed noads will argravate the traveliers until about Feb. 1. Then there will be several falls of soft snow, which will soon melt and run off. March will have alternate storms of snow and rain. April will be a bad one for the tumbermen, because there will be inthe snow upon which to haul lorg. Southeast gales, with blinding steet and rain, will sweep the coast, making it dangerous for shirping. It will be a light winter on fuel. Men who are thinking of purchasing heavy overcoals had better invest their money in rubber beots and quintue, because it is going to be a wet winter, when bad colds and pounoin a will prevait. That is Mr. Bonzey's idea of the outlook.

The closing exercises of the Literary Club were highly successful. Perfect order was preserved without the attendance of the town mershal, whose children were laid up with measles, from which we sincerely hope they will recover soon. There was high tumbling by a stranded circus performer, a wrestling match in which nobody was hurt, after which a delightful hot supper was served, consisting of more than we have space to mention. It was said that the Sheriff overate himself and had fits, but the report is false, for we were personally present until daylight, and we positively assert that all went merry as a marriage bell.

LIFE WITHOUT NEIGHBORS.

TWO BROTHERS WHO ACTUALLY OWN ALL THE LAND THAT JOINS THEN

Necessary to Take a Long Sea Voyage When They Make a Call—At Home on a Dot in the Sea, Which Was Found by

From the San Francisco Chronicle

Fancy owning an island paradise in your own right; imagine being absolute lord and master of a South Sea gem, a palm-crowned atoli, washed by the sparkling blue waves of the Pacific Ocean, and separated by hundreds of miles of ocean from all contact with civilizes tion. It is a lot which all who have a trace of romance in their composition must covet, yet ts attainment, in these modern days, is practically an impossibility. You cannot go and take an island for yourself, as they did half a century ago, for the simple reason that there are no unoccupied ones left to take. The whole surface of the Pacific has been so thoroughly explored, crossed and recrossed in every di-rection by thousands of ships, that even the tiniest of reefs have been discovered and given a name. Every island fertile enough to be worth the trouble has been exploited by the white trader and missionary, and has been agnexed by one or another of the great powers.

you cannot achieve it; but there happens to be a man now in Nan Francisco who was lucky enough to succeed to such an inheritance. Just a century ago Capt. Edmund Fanning was cruising in the Facile in command of the good old American ship lictay. In those days they control to the control of the control of

ruler takes advantage of the opportunity to visit this country. It is a significant fact that although the island is British, all its trade comes to this port. "We produce about 200 tons of copra every year." said Mr. Greiz. "and we sell it in San Francisco, because we can get a better price here. Also the supplies we need are cheaper, and the voyage is shorter than one to Austra-lia."

Francisco, because we can get a better price here. Also the supplies we need are cheaper, and the voyage is shorter than one to Australia.

But Fanning Island has other resources besties copra, though the yield of that greasy, evil-smelling article is by no means to be despised. At present copra in San Francisco is valued at 2½ cents a pound, so that the island would supply over \$12,000 worth of this commodity. Then there is abundance of pearlishell in the lagoon, and, by way of prize, an ecasional pearl may be found. But the shell patches are not worked systematically. Now and again the divers are sent down, and this year four tons of shell were brought to market. Even more valuable than copra and shell is the Paoning Island guano. There are huse deposits, the accumulation of countless centuries, on the northern side of the lagoon.

I found it hard to get any details about the the little Island community from Mr. Greig. "We are a very quiet people," was all that he would say. "My brother and I are married, and we educate our chiliren ourselves. We live in a modern wooden house, which we have built in a beautiful spot close to the entrance of the lagoon. Of course we have all the comforts of civilization, and really we are very happy in our peaceful home.

How do we amuse ourselves? Oh, we go fishing or shooting. There are plenty of plover and snipe on the Island. In the old days the placed swarmed with wild pigs, but they did so much damage, that we had to exterminate them. Then we have our business to look after. We are always planting fresh palme and extending our plantation."

As there is no aboriginal population, all the work on Fanning Island has to be done by imported labor. In that intensely tropical olimate, only three degrees north of the line, white men, of course, cannot stand the strain of plantation work. About 15% black boys are employed, mostly obtained from Rakahanga, an island south of the line. The men are treated well and prove tractable employees, rarely giving trouble. They are engaged by

thunderous breakers of the Pacific, and gently laved on the other by the placid waters of the land-locked lagoon. There are no horses nor wheeled vehicles, and no roads. The lagoon provides such an admirable method of conveyance that nothing further is needed. To visit any part of the plantation you simply jump into a canoe and paddle to your destination.

Nothing Elaborate About This Swindle.

From the Boston Ecening Transcript.

A new kind of swindle has been put into successful operation in Cambridge during the last few days. A man has been canvassing the city and selling "kerosene" at nine cents per gallon, two or three cents below the market rate, which the purchasers discovered too late, is nothing but fresh water, and very unsatisfactory for illuminating purposes. One lady who bought some lives on Lowell street, Old Cambridge, and she has a number of Harvard and Radeliffe lodgers. After purchasing it she cleaned all her lamps thoroughly and filled them with the spurious kerosene, producing somewhat amusing results when the lodgers tried to light them. The man has a barrel on a buggy, and the officers are on the lookout for him. From the Boston Reening Transcript.

Metal Furniture for a Warship.

Trom the Washington Evening Star.

The cruiser Atlanta, which is expected to be put in commission next week, will be the first vessel of the navy to be equipped with the metal furniture designed for vessels of the navy. The innovation is the result of experiences in recent naval engagements, and is insteaded to do away with the liability to fire on shipboard during an engagement, by the removal of as much of the woodwork as possible, Considerable interest attaches to the result of this experiment on the Atlanta.